

NEWS RELEASE



STATE OF ALABAMA
Department of
Industrial Relations
News For Immediate Release
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UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS INCREASE FOR NEW CLAIMANTS

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, June 30, 2004 The maximum weekly benefit amount for qualified claimants who file new unemployment compensation claims in Alabama, on or after July 4, will increase from \$210 to \$220.

“For those who are currently drawing unemployment, there will be no change in the benefit amount they will receive,” says Phyllis Kennedy , director of the Alabama Department of Industrial Relations. “The \$10 hike was passed by the Alabama Legislature during its 2004 regular session that concluded in May.”

Although the maximum weekly amount was raised to \$220, the minimum weekly benefit amount remains at \$45 for qualified claimants.

New unemployment compensation claims may be filed by calling 1-866-234-5382. On the day after a claim is filed, Industrial Relations mails a monetary determination of base period wages by employer, and the total and weekly amounts to which claimants are entitled to receive.

The last time Alabama’s maximum weekly unemployment benefit amount increased was July 2002, when there was a hike from \$190 to \$210.

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Industrial Relations is an umbrella organization of State government which administers: the State Employment Service, Unemployment Insurance, Workers’ Compensation, and Labor Market Information. Smaller programs also administered include Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation, Mine Safety and Inspection, and Surface Mining of Non-Fuel Minerals. For more information on DIR visit the Web site: www.dir.alabama.gov/.